



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
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INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, NOVEMBER 1973 (PRELIMINARY)

This bulletin contains statistics of industrial disputes for the month of November 1973 and some previous periods. More information about these disputes will appear later in the detailed quarterly mimeograph *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6).

2. The statistics of industrial disputes are now compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), described in the Bureau publication *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (Preliminary Edition)*, 1969, Vol. 1. Statistics on this basis for the years 1968 to 1972 and for March quarter 1973 were published for the first time in the March quarter 1973 bulletin (Reference No. 6.6), which also contained details of the major changes that had resulted from the adoption of ASIC. (See paragraph 16 on page 4 of that bulletin.) The major changes to the industry classification used in the monthly bulletins were set out in paragraph 6 on page 2 of the April 1973 bulletin. Because of these and other changes in industry classification the statistics shown in Table 2 of this bulletin are not directly comparable with similar statistics appearing in monthly bulletins prior to the April 1973 issue, in quarterly bulletins prior to March 1973, and in *Labour Report* No. 56, 1971 (and earlier issues).

3. The statistics of industrial disputes refer only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are employees thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may be estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

4. Stoppages of work occurring at different times and at different establishments but due to the same cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However, an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State. A dispute involving workers in more than one industry in a State or Territory is counted only once in the number of disputes — in the industry that has the largest number of workers involved; but workers involved, working days lost and estimated loss in wages are allocated to their respective industries. Disputes not settled at the end of a year are included as new disputes in the figures for the following year. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

5. For statistics of industrial disputes for earlier periods see *Labour Report* No. 56, 1971 (Reference No. 6.7). However, statistics of disputes classified by industry shown in that and earlier issues of the *Labour Report* are not directly comparable with the statistics classified by industry shown in this bulletin (see paragraph 2 above).

TABLE 1. — INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

| Period                         | Beginning<br>in month | Number of disputes | Workers involved<br>('000) |                       | Working<br>days lost (a)<br>('000) | Estimated<br>loss in<br>wages (a)<br>(\$'000) |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---|
|                                |                       |                    | Total (a)                  | Beginning<br>in month |                                    |   |
| 1968                           | ..                    | 1,713              | ..                         | 720.3                 | 1,079.5                            | 12,115.2                                      |
| 1969                           | ..                    | 2,014              | ..                         | 1,285.2               | 1,958.0                            | 22,985.7                                      |
| 1970                           | ..                    | 2,738              | ..                         | 1,367.4               | 2,393.7                            | 30,883.3                                      |
| 1971                           | ..                    | 2,404              | ..                         | 1,326.5               | 3,068.6                            | 45,241.3                                      |
| 1972                           | ..                    | 2,298              | ..                         | 1,113.8               | 2,010.3                            | 32,074.4                                      |
| 1972 —                         |                       |                    |                            |                       |                                    |   |
| November                       | 210                   | 230                | 77.8                       | 83.7                  | 170.8                              | 2,777.6                                       |
| December                       | 109                   | 121                | 24.2                       | 29.0                  | 53.2                               | 933.7   |
| 1973 —                         |                       |                    |                            |                       |                                    |   |
| January                        | 153                   | 153                | 39.9                       | 39.9                  | 82.1                               | 1,365.7                                       |
| February                       | 278                   | 290                | 59.2                       | 66.8                  | 248.4                              | 4,095.9                                       |
| March                          | 268                   | 300                | 73.9                       | 82.7                  | 231.7                              | 3,941.6                                       |
| April                          | 146                   | 155                | 75.9                       | 78.7                  | 192.0                              | 3,134.2                                       |
| May                            | 212                   | 223                | 100.4                      | 113.6                 | 304.3                              | 5,026.5                                       |
| June                           | 165                   | 181                | 48.1                       | 81.9                  | 363.7                              | 6,148.5                                       |
| July                           | 196                   | 207                | 111.4                      | 139.6                 | 225.0                              | 3,962.1                                       |
| August                         | 216                   | 239                | 56.0                       | 83.3                  | 218.6                              | 3,714.1                                       |
| September                      | 252                   | 273                | 59.5                       | 63.1                  | 215.9                              | 3,639.0                                       |
| October (b)                    | 289                   | 313                | 66.2                       | 79.1                  | 245.2                              | 4,397.3                                       |
| November (b)                   | 241                   | 274                | 87.9                       | 101.6                 | 257.9                              | 4,884.3                                       |
| 1972 : January to November     | ..                    | 2,189              | ..                         | 1,089.5               | 1,957.0                            | 31,140.7                                      |
| 1973 : January to November (b) | ..                    | 2,416              | ..                         | 778.3                 | 2,584.9                            | 44,309.2                                      |

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 4 above. (b) Subject to revision. r — revised.

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AUSTABLE 2. - INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES (a), AUSTRALIA  
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (b)

| Period                         | Manufacturing |       |   |       | Transport and storage; communication |                      |       |                  |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------|---|-------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-------|------------------|
|                                | Mining        |       | Metal products, machinery and equipment (c) | Other | Construction                         | Stevedoring services | Other | Other industries |
|                                | Coal          | Other |   |       |                                      |                      |       |                  |
| 1968                           | 61.1          | 67.7  | 423.5                                       | 116.1 | 118.3                                | 77.3                 | 155.7 | 59.7             |
| 1969                           | 76.1          | 76.9  | 643.6                                       | 267.1 | 264.4                                | 136.2                | 286.4 | 207.3            |
| 1970                           | 178.4         | 76.5  | 625.9                                       | 440.9 | 618.3                                | 148.3                | 156.7 | 148.8            |
| 1971                           | 251.6         | 83.2  | 636.7                                       | 317.7 | 1,109.5                              | 73.9                 | 300.1 | 295.9            |
| 1972                           | 60.8          | 62.0  | 620.2                                       | 393.7 | 407.8                                | 39.2                 | 205.2 | 221.3            |
| 1972 - November                | 5.2           | 4.2   | 33.5  | 52.9  | 33.5                                 | 1.4                  | 20.3  | 19.8             |
| December                       | 1.1           | 1.2   | 11.9  | 14.3  | 3.4                                  | 3.0                  | 9.3   | 9.2              |
| 1973 - January                 | 1.4           | 7.6   | 9.8   | 34.6  | 6.5                                  | 4.2                  | 6.6   | 11.6             |
| February                       | 8.4           | 11.5  | 37.5  | 133.3 | 23.2                                 | 1.5                  | 14.9  | 18.0             |
| March                          | 14.5          | 33.8  | 39.0  | 69.9  | 16.0                                 | 7.1                  | 12.3  | 39.1             |
| April                          | 5.0           | 17.4  | 34.4  | 96.2  | 15.6                                 | 1.4                  | 3.4   | 18.7             |
| May                            | 9.0           | 3.3   | 115.0                                       | 44.0  | 92.0                                 | 0.6                  | 5.3   | 35.1             |
| June                           | 12.2          | 5.8   | 219.7                                       | 62.4  | 49.6                                 | 1.5                  | 1.2   | 11.4             |
| July                           | 4.7           | 14.6  | 95.3  | 23.5  | 55.6                                 | 5.9                  | 7.8   | 17.7             |
| August                         | 5.4           | 16.2  | 38.7  | 37.5  | 32.4                                 | 12.2                 | 8.7   | 67.4             |
| September                      | 6.2           | 8.1   | 59.5  | 68.9  | 8.5                                  | 5.9                  | 4.6   | 54.3             |
| October (d)                    | 10.9          | 12.1  | 75.4  | 58.2  | 60.1                                 | 4.2                  | 3.1   | 21.2             |
| November (d)                   | 8.4           | 22.7  | 49.7  | 26.9  | 76.6                                 | 4.3                  | 24.8  | 44.5             |
| 1972 : January to November     | 59.8          | 60.8  | 608.3                                       | 379.4 | 404.4                                | 36.2                 | 195.9 | 212.1            |
| 1973 : January to November (d) | 86.1          | 153.0 | 773.9                                       | 655.5 | 436.1                                | 48.7                 | 92.7  | 339.0            |

(a) Australian Standard Industrial Classification - see paragraph 2, page 1. (b) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 4, page 1. (c) Includes ASIC sub-divisions 29,31,32,33. (d) Subject to revision. r - revised.

NOTE. The figures in Table 2 are not comparable with those published in monthly bulletins prior to the April 1973 issue.  
(See paragraph 2, page 1.)

TABLE 3. - INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES  
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)

| Period                         | N.S.W.  | Vic.  | Qld   | S.A.  | W.A.  | Tas.  | Aust. (b) |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|
| 1968                           | 583.4   | 243.9 | 158.6 | 51.1  | 21.8  | 13.0  | 1,079.5   |
| 1969                           | 743.8   | 717.2 | 238.6 | 129.0 | 101.4 | 9.9   | 1,958.0   |
| 1970                           | 1,393.6 | 510.8 | 179.2 | 93.1  | 141.1 | 32.2  | 2,393.7   |
| 1971                           | 1,887.5 | 689.6 | 271.4 | 111.2 | 69.4  | 20.6  | 3,068.6   |
| 1972                           | 866.8   | 638.4 | 292.2 | 60.9  | 94.6  | 19.2  | 2,010.3   |
| 1972 - November                | 59.2    | 58.3  | 44.8  | 2.7   | 1.2   | 1.4   | 170.8     |
| December                       | 22.5    | 17.9  | 6.4   | 2.7   | 2.3   | 1.1   | 53.2      |
| 1973 - January                 | 32.8    | 11.2  | 4.1   | 2.6   | 7.9   | 19.1  | 82.1      |
| February                       | 87.0    | 86.6  | 16.7  | 14.7  | 7.7   | 33.5  | 248.4     |
| March                          | 110.0   | 47.4  | 18.8  | 15.2  | 10.2  | 28.5  | 231.7     |
| April                          | 42.9    | 92.8  | 18.2  | 5.7   | 11.7  | 9.5   | 192.0     |
| May                            | 125.6   | 94.2  | 56.2  | 7.9   | 7.2   | 12.4  | 304.3     |
| June                           | 158.5   | 91.1  | 75.6  | 3.0   | 8.7   | 18.8  | 363.7     |
| July                           | 90.8    | 102.0 | 17.1  | 4.2   | 9.2   | 1.6   | 225.0     |
| August                         | 113.0   | 33.7  | 42.8  | 7.1   | 15.7  | 2.5   | 218.6     |
| September                      | 91.2    | 83.2  | 25.1  | 6.8   | 4.3   | 0.2   | 215.9     |
| October (c)                    | 110.3   | 87.3  | 14.9  | 15.3  | 12.9  | 1.8   | 245.2     |
| November (c)                   | 125.2   | 44.6  | 27.4  | 23.3  | 21.0  | 8.5   | 257.9     |
| 1972 : January to November     | 844.3   | 620.6 | 285.8 | 58.2  | 92.3  | 18.1  | 1,957.0   |
| 1973 : January to November (c) | 1,087.3 | 774.0 | 316.8 | 105.9 | 116.5 | 136.5 | 2,584.9   |

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 4, page 1. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (c) Subject to revision. r - revised.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr G. Laurie on 63 9111 extension 2055, or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.